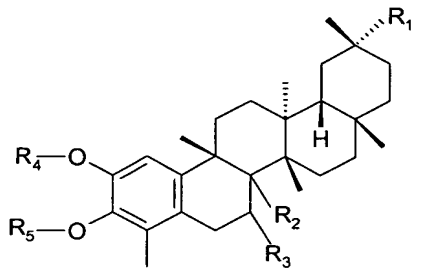
This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 through 6: Cancelled.

Claim 7 (new): In a collection or a library of compounds for use in biological assays in high-throughput screening for determining biological activity in a warm blooded animal, the improvement which comprises inclusion within the collection or the library a compound of formula **III**

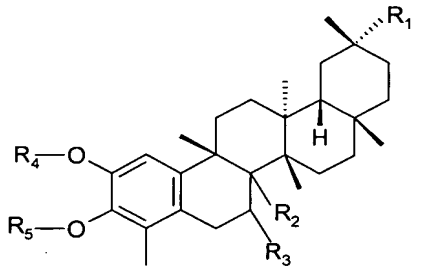


III

- wherein R_1 is H, CH_2OH, COOH, CH_2OCOR wherein R is C-1 to C-12 alkyl, carboxyalkyl, carboxyalkenyl, alkoxycarbonylalkyl, alkoxycarbonylalkenyl, or aminoalkyl;
- wherein R_2 and R_3 are individually H or OH, or together a double bond or epoxide; and
- wherein R_4 and R_5 are individually H, lower acyl, or lower alkyl, or together are a substituted or unsubstituted methylene or ethylene, -CO-, -COCO-, or $-SO_2-$.

Claim 8 (new): The collection or library as recited in claim 7 wherein the compound of formula III, R_1 is COOH, R_2 and R_3 are together a double bond, and R_4 and R_5 are each acetyl.

Claim 9 (new): A method for treating inflammatory diseases responsive to heat shock proteins in a warm-blooded animal which comprises administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula **III**



III

wherein R_1 is H, CH_2OH, COOH, CH_2OCOR, where R is C_1-C_{12} alkyl, carboxyalkyl, carboxyalkenyl, alkoxycarbonylalkyl, alkoxycarbonylalkenyl or amino alkyl,

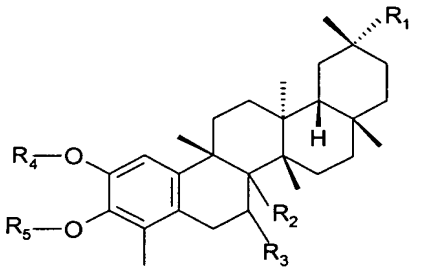
wherein R_2 and R_3 are individually H or OH or together a double bond or epoxide; and

wherein R_4 and R_5 are H, lower acyl, or together a substituted or unsubstituted methylene or ethylene, -C_9-, -COCO- or SO_2-.

Claim 10 (new): The method as recited in Claim 9 wherein in the compound of formula III,

- R_1 is COOH
- R_2 and R_3 are together a double bond, and
- R_4 and R_5 are each acetyl.

Claim 11 (new): A method for treating neurodegenerative disease responsive to heat shock proteins in a warm blooded animal which comprises administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula **III**



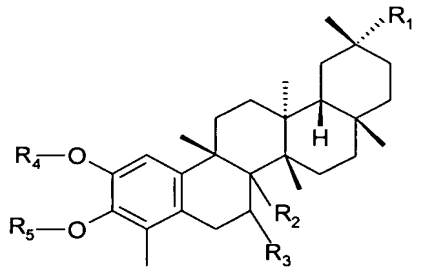
III

- wherein R_1 is H, CH_2OH, COOH, CH_2OCOR wherein R is C-1 to C-12 alkyl, carboxyalkyl, carboxyalkenyl, alkoxycarbonylalkyl, alkoxycarboylalkenyl or aminoalkyl;
- wherein R_2 and R_3 are individually H or OH, or together a double bond or epoxide; and
- wherein R_4 and R_5 are individually H, lower acyl, or lower alkyl, or together are a substituted or unsubstituted methylene or ethylene, -CO-, -COCO-, or $-SO_2-$.

Claim 12 (new): The method as recited in claim 11 wherein the compound of formula III

- R_1 is COOH
- R_2 and R_3 are together a double bond, and
- R_4 and R_5 are each acetyl.

Claim 13 (new): A method for treating neoplastic disease responsive to heat shock proteins in a warm blooded animal which comprises administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula **III**



III

- wherein R_1 is H, CH_2OH, COOH, CH_2OCOR wherein R is C-1 to C-12 alkyl, carboxyalkyl, carboxyalkenyl, alkoxycarbonylalkyl, alkoxycarbonylalkenyl or aminoalkyl;
- wherein R_2 and R_3 are individually H or OH, or together a double bond or epoxide; and
- wherein R_4 and R_5 are individually H, lower acyl, or lower alkyl, or together are a substituted or unsubstituted methylene or ethylene, -CO-, -COCO-, or $-SO_2-$.